

Message Text

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ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 SSO-00
INRE-00 USIE-00 NEA-10 L-03 IO-13 ACDA-07 FEAE-00
INT-05 NSF-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 DOTE-00 CG-00 CEQ-01 EPA-01
COME-00 AGRE-00 AID-05 EB-08 TRSE-00 DLOS-09
SAL-00 /114 W

-----071745Z 104929 /47

O R 071651Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2499
INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 LONDON 05826

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: XV TGEN UK
SUBJECT: ANTARCTIC TREATY: HEAP VISIT TO FAO COMMITTEE
ON FISHERIES (COFI) MEETING, ROME,
APRIL 19-26, 1977

REF: LONDON 4602

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1. EMBASSY RECEIVED CIRCULAR LETTER DATED APRIL 5 FROM
HEAP ON APRIL 7. HE ASKS THAT WE PROVIDE HIM WITH NAME
OF MEMBER OF US DEL TO SUBJECT MEETING WHO WILL HAVE
BEEN BRIEFED ON ANTARCTIC CONCERNS AND WITH GUIDANCE ON
A VARIETY OF SUBJECTS BEFORE APRIL 18. TEXT FOLLOWS.

2. BEGIN QUOTE:

ANTARCTIC TREATY: ACTION AT THE FAO COMMITTEE ON
FISHERIES (COFI) MEETING IN ROME.19-26 APRIL 1977

ARISING FROM THE EXTENDED PREPARATORY MEETING LAST
MONTH, YOU WILL RECALL THAT I AM ATTENDING THE COFI
MEETING IN ROME AS A MEMBER OF THE BRITISH DELEGATION
TO HELP, IN A PERSONAL CAPACITY, IN COORDINATING RE-
SPONSES OF THE ANTARCTIC TREATY GROUP TO THE REVISED
VERSION OF FAO'S SOUTHERN OCEAN FISHERIES PAPER. TO
ASSIST ME IN PREPARING FOR THE MEETING I SHOULD BE VERY
GRATEFUL FOR YOUR HELP ON TWO POINTS.

3. FIRST, COULD YOU PLEASE LET ME KNOW THE NAME OF THE
MEMBER OF YOUR DELEGATION WHO WILL BE BRIEFED ON THIS
SUBJECT, OR, IF YOUR COUNTRY IS NOT A MEMBER OF COFI,
THE NAME OF SOMEONE IN YOUR EMBASSY IN ROME WITH WHOM I
CAN KEEP IN TOUCH ON THIS MATTER.

4. THE SECOND POINT IS RATHER MORE COMPLEX AND CON-
CERNS OBJECTIVES AT THE MEETING. WHILE THE GENERAL
TREND OF DELEGATES' VIEWS AT THE EPM WAS REASONABLY
CLEAR, NO ATTEMPT WAS MADE TO WORK OUT OBJECTIVES FOR
THE COFI MEETING IN TERMS OF NEGOTIATING AIMS AND
POSSIBLE FALL-BACK POSITIONS. I DO NOT BELIEVE IT
WOULD BE APPROPRIATE, AT THIS STAGE, TO CONSIDER NEO-
TIATING TACTICS BUT IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF ALL OUR
DELEGATIONS OR EMBASSY REPRESENTATIVES WERE BRIEFED TO
RESPOND TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS WHICH WOULD, I THINK,
PROVIDE A USEFUL STARTING POINT FOR DISCUSSION AND CO-
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ORDINATION IN ROME:-

(A) WOULD IT BE REALISTIC TO TRY TO EXCLUDE FAO
AND COFI FROM ANY ROLE WHATSOEVER IN CONNEC-
TION WITH THE LIVING RESOURCES OF THE
SOUTHERN OCEAN?

(B) IF THE ANSWER TO (A) WERE "NO" SHOULD FAO'S
FUNCTION BE CONFINED TO THE COLLECTION OF
CATCH DATA AS ENVISAGED AT THE WOODS HOLE
MEETING (SCAR BULLETIN NO. 55, PAGE 182,
PARAGRAPH 5)? (COPY OF PAGE 182 ATTACHED.
IT SHOULD BE BORNE IN MIND THAT THE BIOMASS
PROGRAMME HAS NOW BEEN APPROVED BY SCAR,
SCOR AND IOC AND THAT IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT
TO DENY FAO THIS FUNCTION AT THIS LATE
STAGE.)

(C) IF THE ANSWER TO (B) WERE "YES", SHOULD WE

SEEK TO PREVENT THE FORMATION OF THE PROPOSED
SUB-COMMITTEE OF COFI TO DEAL WITH THE
SOUTHERN OCEAN?

(D) IF A SUB-COMMITTEE OF COFI WERE ESTABLISHED
(AGAINST OBJECTION) WOULD IT BE PREFERABLE
FOR ANTARCTIC TREATY CONSULTATIVE PARTIES TO

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ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 SSO-00
INRE-00 USIE-00 NEA-10 L-03 IO-13 ACDA-07 FEAE-00
INT-05 NSF-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 DOTE-00 CG-00 CEQ-01 EPA-01
COME-00 AGRE-00 AID-05 EB-08 TRSE-00 DLOS-09
SAL-00 /114 W

-----071744Z 104901 /47

O R 071651Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2500

INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 LONDON 05826

SEEK OR TO REFUSE NOMINATION TO IT?

5. IN MY PERSONAL VIEW PRUDENT ANSWERS TO THESE QUES-
TIONS WOULD BE "NO" TO QUESTION (A) BECAUSE IT WOULD BE

DIFFICULT TO ANSWER (B) OTHER THAN AFFIRMATIVELY; AND A
"YES" TO QUESTION (C) WHILE LEAVING (D) UNANSWERED ON
THE GROUNDS THAT VIEWS WILL DEPEND ON THE TERMS OF
REFERENCE FOR THE SUB-COMMITTEE.
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6. ATTACHED IS A COPY OF FAO PAPER ON THE LIVING
RESOURCES OF THE SOUTHERN OCEAN (COFI/77/5, SUP. 2,
MARCH 1977). YOU WILL SEE THAT THIS PAPER IS COMPLETELY
DIFFERENT IN STRUCTURE FROM THE EARLIER DRAFTS AND
MARKS A FURTHER MOVE BY FAO AWAY FROM ACTIVE PARTICIPA-
TION IN SOUTHERN OCEAN DEVELOPMENT TOWARDS AN INFORMA-
TION AND CO-ORDINATION PROGRAMME. WE SHOULD, I THINK,
ASSUME THAT FAO WILL SEEK TO PROJECT THEIR PAPER AS THE
RESULT OF CONSULTATIONS WITH, INTER ALIA, THE ANTARCTIC
TREATY SIGNATORIES.

7. I SHOULD BE GRATEFUL IF YOU WOULD LET ME HAVE THE
NAME OF YOUR DELEGATION MEMBER OR EMBASSY REPRESENTATIVE
BEFORE 18 APRIL. I SHALL NOT EXPECT RESPONSES TO THE
QUESTIONS BY THEN BUT IF YOUR GOVERNMENT CARES TO LET
US HAVE ANY THOUGHTS ON POSSIBLE OBJECTIVES AND FALL-
BACK POSITIONS, PREFERABLY IN WRITING, I AM SURE THEY
WOULD BE HELPFUL. THEY WOULD, OF COURSE, BE TREATED AS
HAVING BEEN GIVEN IN CONFIDENCE. END QUOTE

8. ATTACHMENTS REFERRED TO IN TEXT ARE BEING POUCHED
TO OES/APT/BMP: SELLIN.

MILLER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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